Appl'n No. 10/054,706 Response to December 16, 2008 Office Action

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl'n No. 10/054,706 Confirmation No.: 5413

First Named Inventor: Alemi et al. Filing Date 01/24/2002

Art Unit 3696

Gottschalk, Martin A.

Examiner : Gottschalk, Attorney Docket No. : GMU-22U Customer No. : 28598

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Examiner:

In response to the Office Action ("OA") dated December 16, 2008, herewith is a submission of Applicants' Amendment. The OA has a shortened statutory period of three months for response that is set to expire on March 16, 2009.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8.